



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF



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22 APRIL 1966

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1. South Vietnam

No further trouble has been reported from Dalat since the grenade incident at the police station earlier in the day. The city will stay under tight military control until tomorrow morning. The I Corps area has been quiet today.

General Chieu, the secretary general of the military directorate, said yesterday that the directorate has no intention of relinquishing control of the government until constitutional processes are completed. He doubts, however, that there will be any sharp confrontation while preparations for election get under way.

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2. North Vietnam

The North Vietnamese may be preparing for a possible call-up of veterans with military service prior to 1954.

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There were earlier signs that this move was being considered.

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3. Laos

General Ma, the capable head of the air force, has apparently again angered his nominal superiors in the Laotian military establishment. They are thinking of removing him for exceeding his authority and disregarding instructions from the general staff.

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4. Communist China

The Chinese continue to find many little ways to irritate the Soviets. A Peking broadcast this week carried new regulations for foreign vessels plying border rivers. The rules, clearly aimed at the Soviets, prohibit passengers and crewmen from sketching, fishing, or swimming from the boats.

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5. Japan

Prime Minister Sato is concerned over the threat to Japan inherent in Peking's accomplishments in the nuclear and missiles fields.

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6. Poland

US military attachés in Poland have recently been severely harassed by the secret police and even threatened with loaded firearms. The Polish response to our protests has been highly unsatisfactory.

The most likely explanation lies in the regime's domestic problems. Gomulka is under the strong influence of the secret police and their influence tends to become dominant during periods of domestic difficulties.

The current church-state confrontation and the subversive activities of a small dissident faction on the fringes of the Polish party are presently causing some nervousness in Warsaw.

7. Soviet Union

ear-
lier this week that Moscow has increased its armed forces personnel strength to "keep pace" with the US. He refused to give a strength figure, but said that three million was "realistic."

Early last year the Soviet armed forces were estimated to number between 2.8 and 2.9 million. There has been evidence of an increase since then.

8. West Europe

British talk of withdrawing from the European Launcher Development Organization, largely for financial reasons, will be a major issue during the organization's meeting next week in Paris. Uncertainty over the prospects for joint European space efforts may delay agreement on US proposals for cooperative US-European arrangements.

9. United Nations

U Thant's term as secretary general expires next fall, and his associates feel he will probably decide by June whether he will try for re-election.

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His wife is said to be thoroughly unhappy in the US and violently opposed to her husband's remaining.

10. Dominican Republic

Sunday will begin a week of observations to mark the first anniversary of the eruption of the civil war. Some of the events are likely to be provocative and trouble could develop quickly.

Bosch has publicly warned his partisans against taking part in any demonstrations, but groups further to the left are preparing to agitate on a variety of issues, particularly against the US.

Dominican troops are to be restricted to quarters beginning tomorrow. This will keep them off the streets and out of the way of leftist demonstrators, but readily available in case trouble erupts.

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